



State of Wisconsin
Governor Scott Walker

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Ben Brancel, Secretary

September 9, 2014

County: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Dear (b)(6)

Thank you for participating in our recent well sampling program. This letter contains the test results for your well (b)(6)

What did we test for?

We tested a sample of water collected from your well for several agricultural chemicals and nitrate (a form of nitrogen that can come from several sources). We also tested your water for breakdown products of many of the herbicides.

What did we find in your water?

Your water contained nitrate-N at a level above the health standard. Your water also contained detectable amounts of one or more other compounds that did not exceed any health standards. The table included with this letter lists the results for your water and any established health standards.

What are the risks of nitrate?

Nitrate levels greater than 10 mg/l exceed state and federal standards for nitrate in public drinking water supplies. High nitrate levels in drinking water pose a serious health risk to infants. There is also some evidence of an association between high nitrate levels in drinking water during the first weeks of pregnancy and certain birth defects; however, further scientific study is needed to confirm this association. The Department of Health Services (DHS) recommends that infants in the household, and any females who are or may become pregnant, do not consume any water that exceeds this standard (either by drinking or by eating foods prepared with the water, such as soups, juices and coffee). Additionally, DHS recommends that all people avoid long-term consumption of water having a nitrate concentration greater than 10 mg/l. The enclosed brochure contains more information about nitrate in drinking water.

What should you do now?

Because your well contains unsafe levels of nitrate, we recommend that you take actions to obtain safe drinking water. Boiling the water prior to consumption is not advised since it does not remove nitrate and will actually increase the concentration in the water. You may contact me at 608/224-4503 to obtain more information about options such as bottled water, hauled water, water treatment devices, or a new well.

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You may want to consider testing your water annually to monitor for changes in the nitrate levels. The State Laboratory of Hygiene (phone 800-442-4618), the Water and Environmental Analysis Lab of UW Stevens Point (phone 877-383-8378) or a private laboratory can perform this test.

Sincerely,

Jeff Postle
Hydrogeologist
jeff.postle@wi.gov

Groundwater Sample Results

Sample Collection Date: 7/8/14

(b)(6)

Well (b)(6)

Compound	Result	Health Advisory Level	Over Health Standard?
Nitrate	23.7 mg/l	10 mg/l	YES
Atrazine	not detected	*	*
Deethyl atrazine	not detected	*	*
Deisopropyl atrazine	not detected	*	*
Diamino atrazine	not detected	*	*
Atrazine Total	not detected	3 ug/l	NO
Acetochlor	not detected	7 ug/l	NO
Acetochlor ESA + OA	not detected	230 ug/l	NO
Alachlor	not detected	2 ug/l	NO
Alachlor ESA	1.93 ug/l	20 ug/l	NO
Alachlor OA	0.305 ug/l	not established	-
Imidacloprid	0.363 ug/l	not established	-
Thiamethoxam	not detected	not established	-
Clothianidin	0.249 ug/l	not established	-
Simazine	not detected	4 ug/l	NO
Metolachlor	0.519 ug/l	100 ug/l	NO
Metolachlor ESA + OA	37.9 ug/l	1,300 ug/l	NO
Metribuzin	not detected	70 ug/l	NO

mg/l = milligrams per liter, equivalent to parts per million.

ug/l = micrograms per liter, equivalent to parts per billion.

* The Health Advisory Level for the sum of parent atrazine and three breakdown products is 3 ug/l.